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We still need a brief class-book of mineralogy for college students and beginners, one which shall lead the student to carefully examine at least the physical characters of not over, say a hundred, of our rock-making and other more important minerals, such as are constantly met with by amateurs, miners and prospectors. Such a book should also enter fully into the methods of study for the examination of minerals by their physical characters, comprising a set of object-lessons which may be made of much value and interest to college and other classes.

THIRD REPORT OF THE U. S. ENTOMOLOGICAL COMMISSION.—This report forms a volume of 550 pages, with an appendix of nearly 100 pages, and is illustrated by sixty-four plates. It is divided into three parts. Part I, in reference to the Rocky Mountain locust, has five chapters. Chapter 1 comprises additions to the chronology of locust ravages in 1880 and 1881. Chapters 2, 3 and 4, by Mr. Lawrence Bruner, contain his reports and notes on the locust and cricket (*Anabrus*), giving the results of the expeditions made by him under direction of the Commission, into Northern Montana and British America, Chapter 5 is an essay on "the data obtained from solar physics and earthquake commotions applied to elucidate locust multiplication and migration," by A. H. Swinton, of England, communicated by him and published by the Commission without its endorsing all the author's views.

Part II comprises chapters 6-8, the 6th on the army worm; the 7th on the canker worm, each by C. V. Riley, and the 8th on the Hessian fly, by A. S. Packard, Jr., being a reprint, with additions and other changes, of Bulletin 4 of the Commission. Part III, Scientific results, comprise four chapters, each by A. S. Packard, Jr.; the 9th containing descriptions of certain larvæ of injurious forest insects, illustrated with numerous drawings by Dr. C. F. Gissler, and filling ten plates. Chapter 10 discusses in a fragmentary way certain points in the embryology of the *Caloptenus spretus* and *C. atlantis*; it contains some speculations as to the origin of the wings, and the genealogy of the insects. It closes with a brief account of some points in the development of the bark-boring beetle *Hylurgops pinifex* and *Xyleborus coelatus*, with remarks on the number of segments in the head of winged insects.

Chapter 11 is devoted to an essay on the systematic position of the Orthoptera in relation to other orders of insects, portions of which have appeared in the NATURALIST. This chapter is illustrated with forty-two plates, giving in a comparative way the leading points in the external anatomy of the Orthoptera, Dermaptera, Pseudoneuroptera and Neuroptera.

Chapter 12 is a note of two pages explaining a zoö-geographical map of North America, with remarks on the distribution of locusts.